



RCE/1642 \$ +

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. PTO/SB/80 (08-00) OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Application Number | 08/978,217 |
| Filing Date | November 25, 1997 |
| First Named Inventor | Christopher C. Benz |
| Group Art Unit | 1642 |
| Examiner Name | A. Holleran |
| Attorney Docket Number | 407T-894210US |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
 - i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
 - i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other _____

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2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0893
 - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 11/20/2002 SLUANG1 00000006 500893 08978217
 - ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:2801 370.00 CH
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Tom Hunter | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 38,498 |
| Signature | | Date | 11/12/02 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

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|-------------------|------------|------|----------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Tom Hunter | Date | 11/12/02 |
| Signature | | | |

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Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

(Modified) PTO/SB/21 (6-98)
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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

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| First Named Inventor | Christopher C. Benz |
| Group Art Unit | 1642 |
| Examiner Name | A. Holleran |
| Attorney Docket Number | 407T-894210US |

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
- ☐ Fee Attached
- ☒ Amendment / Response
 - ☐ After Final
 - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☒ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

- ☐ Assignment Papers (for an Application)
- ☒ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Small Entity Statement
- ☐ Request for Refund

- ☐ After Allowance Communication to Group
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):

Request for Continued Examination
receipt acknowledgment
postcard

Authorization to Charge Deposit Account

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0893 for any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application, including any extensions of time for consideration of the documents enclosed.

Remarks

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

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| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Firm or Individual name | Tom Hunter, Reg. No. 38,498, Quine Intellectual Property Law Group P.C. |
| Signature | |
| Date | November 12, 2002 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: November 12, 2002

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| Typed or printed name | Tom Hunter |
| Signature | |
| Date | 11/12/02 |